9. The FCI may sell out all storage assets to the Central Warehousing Corporation which can become a prominent storage agency in the country.

10. The FCI should be given greater autonomy to carry out its operaitons.

11. The study has also recommended the "unbundling" of FCI operations either functionally or spatially. This could be achieved either by dividing FCI operations by handing over procurement to State Governments, distribution to the railways and physical verification and storage to CWC. An alternative would be to create State FCIs which will carry out all operations within the State. The Union FCI will only procure, hold and allocate buffer-stocks.

Allocation of BPL quota of wheat and rice to Gujarat

2375. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are allotting BPL quota of wheat and rice on the basis of 21.20 lakh BPL families instead of 35 lakh BPL families in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to increase the monthly quota of BPL wheat and rice against the demand of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under the Targetted Public Distribution System, allocation of foodgrains to all States/UT is being made as per the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission (1993-94) updated on the population projections of the Registrar General as on 01.03.2000, without exception. This criteria is being uniformly followed for all the States/UT and can not be altered in isolation.